

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 04768 210628Z

21

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 SAB-01 SAM-01 SCCT-01 SY-05 /058 W

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O 210557Z MAY 75 ZFF4

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1615

SECDEF WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER NIACT IMMEDIATE

JCS WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE

DA WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE

USAF WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE

CNO WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS TEHRAN 4768

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, IR

SUBJ: ASSASSINATION OF TWO ARMISH/MAAG OFFICERS

1. TWO ARMISH/MAAG OFFICERS WERE ASSASSINATED AT 0630 MAY 21 BY ANTI-REGIME TERRORISTS. AS COLONEL PAUL R. SHAFFER, JR., USAF, AND LTC JACK H. TURNER, USAF, WERE BEING DRIVEN TO THEIR DUTIES AT ARMISH/MAAG J SECTION, A PEYKAN CAR PULLED OUT TO BLOCK THEIR PROGRESS. A SMALL CITROEN RAMMED THEM FROM BEHIND. ACCORDING TO THE IRANIAN MILITARY DRIVER, THREE MEN GOT OUT OF THE AUTOMOBILE AND AFTER ORDERING HIM TO GET DOWN, SHOT COLONEL SHAFFER AND COLONEL TURNER SEVERAL TIMES AS THEY FELL TO THE FLOOR OF THE BACK SEAT. THE TERRORISTS THEN GOT INTO A THIRD CAR AND MADE THEIR GETAWAY. A MIMEO-GRAPHED LEAFLET IN ENGLISH AND FARSI WAS LEFT AT THE SCENE. THE MURDERS TOOK PLACE ABOUT ONE BLOCK FROM THE SITE OF THE BOMBING OF GENERAL PRICE ALMOST THREE YEARS AGO TO THE DATE DURING THE VISIT OF PRESIDENT NIXON. LTC HAWKINS WAS ASSASSINATED TWO YEARS AGO JUNE 2. COLONEL SHAFFER WOULD HAVE COMPLETED A TWO YEAR TOUR IN IRAN THIS SUMMER. COLONEL TURNER WAS ASSIGNED

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HERE LAST YEAR.

2. POLICE AND SAVAK ARE INVESTIGATING. WE ARE IN TOUCH WITH
IRANIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. THE PRIME MINISTER AND CHIEF
SUPREME COMMANDER'S STAFF HAVE EXPRESSED THIER CONDOLENCES.
MIKLOS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ASSASSINATION, MILITARY ADVISERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975TEHRAN04768
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750177-1084
From: TEHRAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750529/aaaabalj.tel
Line Count: 66
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: SmithRJ
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 JUL 2003 by BalzMJ>; APPROVED <26 JAN 2004 by SmithRJ>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ASSASSINATION OF TWO ARMISH/MAAG OFFICERS
TAGS: PINS, IR, (TURNER, JACK H), (SHAFFER, PAUL R)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006